

Scottish Observatory for Work and Health

University of Glasgow

Incapacity Benefit Claimant Overview Profile

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Summary & Key Findings

Incapacity Benefit claimant Overview Profile

1. This IB claimant overview profile compares IB rates and on and off rates from 2000 to 2008 for the following geographies;

Scotland

Local authorities Glasgow City, North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire, East Dunbartonshire, East Renfrewshire, Inverclyde, Renfrewshire, West Dunbartonshire, East Lothian, City of Edinburgh, Midlothian, West Lothian

Community Health and Care Partnerships East Glasgow, North Glasgow, South East Glasgow, South West Glasgow, West Glasgow

2. The profile also shows the 'bath water' diagrams for all geographies for 2000 and 2008. The 'bath water' diagrams detail the incapacity benefit population (those claiming IB at any given time), the on flow (those starting to claim IB) and the off flow (those whose claim has terminated) in a given year. They show that the decrease in the population on IB is mainly due to decreases in the on flow rather than increases in the off flow.

3. IB rates are shown from 2000 to 2008 and are expressed as the number of IB claimants as a percent of the working age population. The IB rate has decreased from 2000 to 2008 in all geographies. In 2000 East Glasgow had the highest IB rate at 23.8% which fell to 17.7% in 2008. East Renfrewshire had the lowest IB rate in 2000 at 7.4% which fell to 5.9% in 2008.

4. On flow rates are shown from 2000 to 2008 and are expressed as a percent of the working age population not on IB. The rate of on flow has decreased across all geographies from 2000 to 2008. East Glasgow had the highest on flow rate in 2000 at 6.4% but there has been a drop of 2.1 percentage points to 4.3% in 2008. East Dunbartonshire had the lowest on flow rate at 1.8% in 2000 and this decreased to 1.4% in 2008.

5. Off flow rates are shown from 2000 to 2008 and are expressed as a percent of the total stock population. The off flow rates are much more variable across all geographies from 2000 to 2008 but the trend is generally upwards. In 2000 West Glasgow had the lowest off flow rate at 20.5% and Inverclyde the highest off flow rate at 26.8%. Glasgow City had a relatively low off flow rate at 21.3% in 2000 but increased its off flow rate by 4.3 percentage points to 25.6% in 2008. West Dunbartonshire had an off flow rate of 23.4% in 2000 and had the largest increase, (7.1 points) to 30.5% in 2008. Although Inverclyde saw a very large increase in its off flow rate in 2003, overall there was a decrease (2.7 points) from 2000 to 2008.

6. A further fourteen individual incapacity benefit claimant profiles have been produced. These profiles contain detailed information on IB claimants by sex, age, reason for claiming IB and length of time on IB. They also contain IB claimant rates for all the neighbourhoods/intermediate zones in each geography.

7. These IB claimant profiles highlight the striking levels of inequality in the level of worklessness related to ill health. While the overall trend is of improvement, this profile confirms a continuing need to prioritise interventions which can improve social inclusion and work capacity.

The Scottish Observatory for Work and Health is funded by the Glasgow Centre for Population Health, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, NHS Lanarkshire, Scottish Centre for Healthy Working Lives and the Scottish Government Health Directorates. We are grateful to DWP for providing these data.

Incapacity Benefit Claimant Profile – An Overview

Introduction

Incapacity benefit (IB) is the key contributory benefit for people who are incapable of work because of illness or disability.

This IB claimant overview profile, produced by the Scottish Observatory for Work & Health using DWP data, compares IB rates and on and off rates from 2000 to 2008 and shows the 'bath water' diagrams for all geographies.

The geographies covered by this profile are shown in the table below:

Geographies covered by IB claimant overview profile

Scotland
Local authorities
Glasgow City
North Lanarkshire
South Lanarkshire
East Dunbartonshire
East Renfrewshire
Inverclyde
Renfrewshire
West Dunbartonshire
East Lothian
City of Edinburgh
Midlothian
West Lothian
Community Health & Care Partnerships
East Glasgow
North Glasgow
South East Glasgow
South West Glasgow
West Glasgow

A further fourteen individual incapacity benefit claimant profiles have been produced. Each individual profile examines the "stock" of IB claimants and the "on" and "off" flow to IB. Each profile provides the following data on IB claimants from 2000 to 2008:

1. A 'bath water' diagram
2. IB rates (% of working age population claiming IB)
3. On flow rates (expressed as a percent of the WAP not on IB)
4. IB off flow rates (expressed as a percent of the total IB population)
5. IB claimants by neighbourhood/intermediate zone
6. Breakdown of IB claimants by sex
 - IB rate by sex
 - On flow rate by sex
 - Off flow rate by sex
 - Payment/credits by sex
7. Breakdown of IB claimants by age
 - IB rate by age
 - On flow rate by age
 - Off flow rate by age
 - Payment/credits by age

8. Breakdown of IB claimants by reason for claiming IB
 - Total claimants by illness
 - Comparison of mental health and musculoskeletal claimants
 - Mental Health IB rate
 - On flow by illness
 - Off flow rate by illness
 - Mental Health IB claimants by neighbourhood/intermediate zone
9. Breakdown of IB claimants by length of time on IB
 - Total claimants by length of time on IB
 - Off flow rate by length of time on IB
10. Off flow destination *restricted access*

Individual profiles are available for the following geographies:

Geographies covered by individual IB claimant profiles

Scotland
Local authorities
 Glasgow City
 North Lanarkshire
 South Lanarkshire
 East Dunbartonshire
 East Renfrewshire
 Inverclyde
 Renfrewshire
 West Dunbartonshire
Community Health & Care Partnerships
 East Glasgow
 North Glasgow
 South East Glasgow
 South West Glasgow
 West Glasgow

Yearly stock data have been calculated by taking a mean of the data from four quarters. For example, yearly data for 2008 were calculated by taking a mean of the data from the four quarters commencing December 2007 and ending in November 2008.

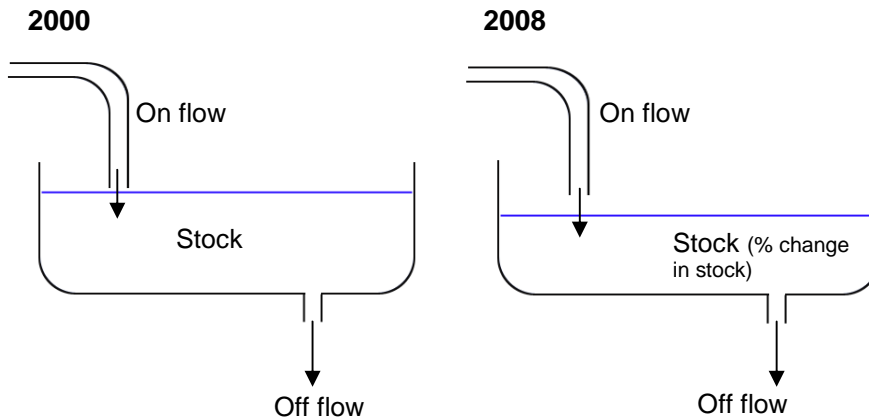
The on and off flow data have been computed into yearly data. For example, data for the year 2008 are the sum of the four quarters from December 2007 to the quarter ending November 2008.

This profile investigates IB claimants from 2000 to 2008. There are important changes with DWP data for 2008. Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) was introduced on the 27th October 2008 and replaced IB and Income Support paid on incapacity grounds for *new* customers only. ESA claimants are not included in the IB figures for 2008.

1. Bath water diagrams

We have previously created a dynamic model of the IB population using a 'bath water' analogy.^{1,2} The 'bath water' diagrams detail the incapacity benefit population (those claiming IB at any given time), the on flow (those starting to claim IB) and the off flow (those whose claim has terminated) in a given year. The population on IB are represented by the amount of bath water. The on and off flow populations are represented by the tap water and the outflow respectively.

IB stock, on flow and off flow



Bath water diagrams are shown for 2000 and 2008 for all geographies (figures 1 – 18). They show that the decrease in the population on IB is mainly due to decreases in the on flow rather than increases in the off flow. However in order to fully understand the on and off flow data the numbers need to be expressed as on and off flow *rates* – see 3 & 4.

Figure 1 Stock IB claimants, on and off flows in Scotland

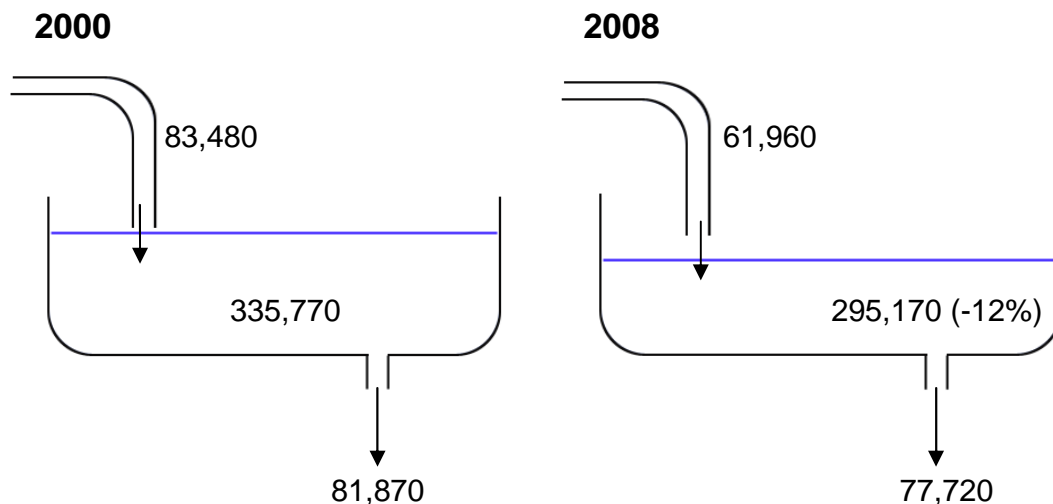


Figure 2 Stock IB claimants, on and off flows in Glasgow City

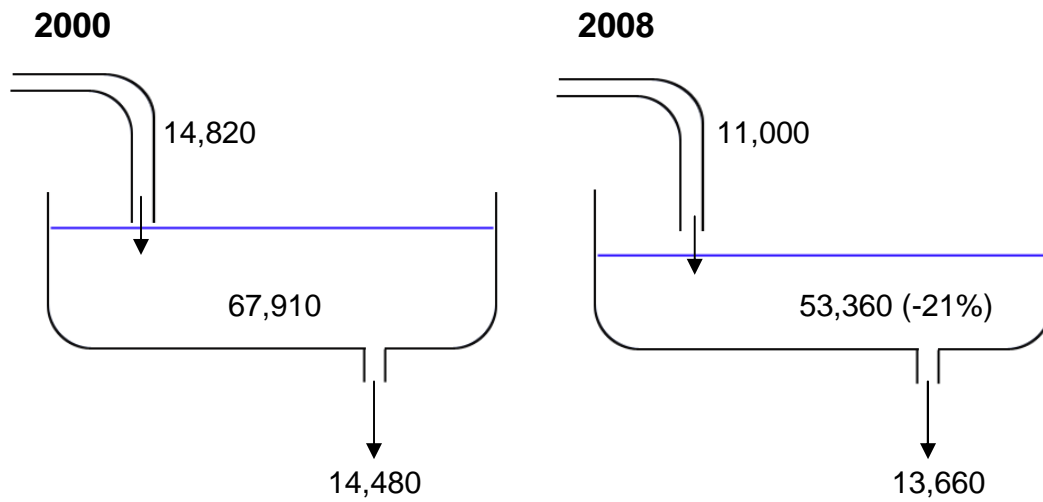


Figure 3 Stock IB claimants, on and off flows in North Lanarkshire

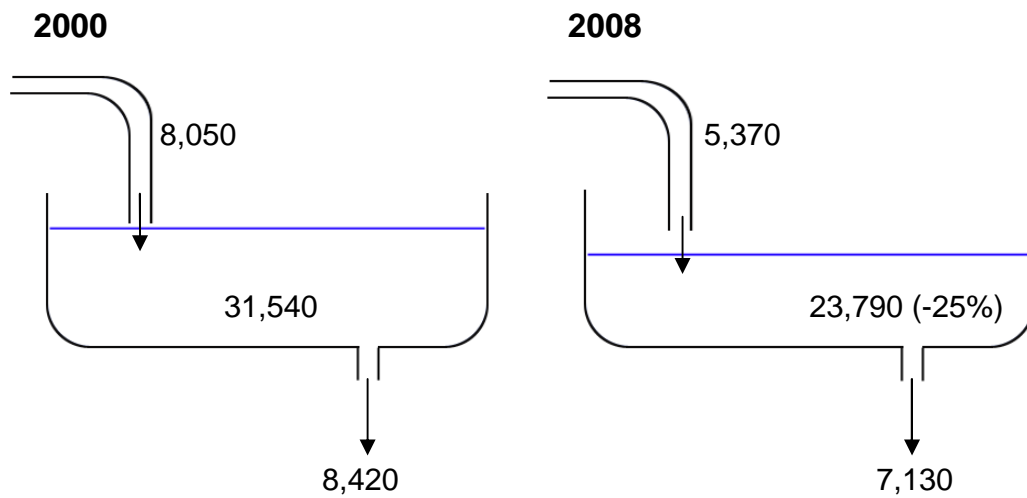


Figure 4 Stock IB claimants, on and off flows in South Lanarkshire

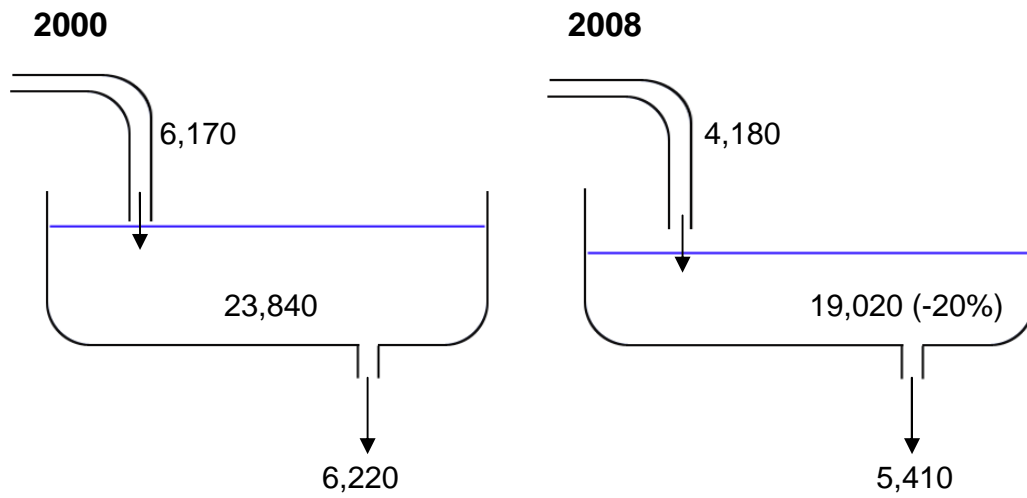


Figure 5 Stock IB claimants, on and off flows in East Dunbartonshire

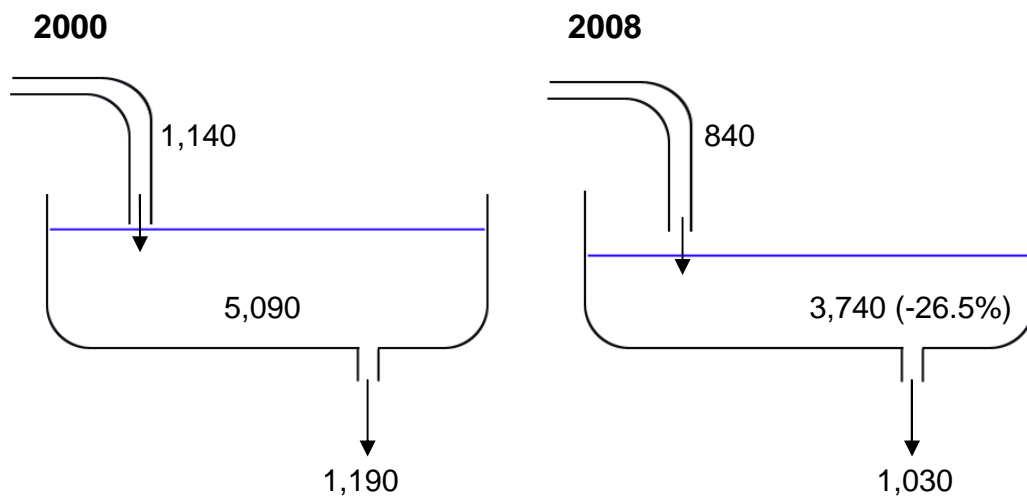


Figure 6 Stock IB claimants, on and off flows in East Renfrewshire

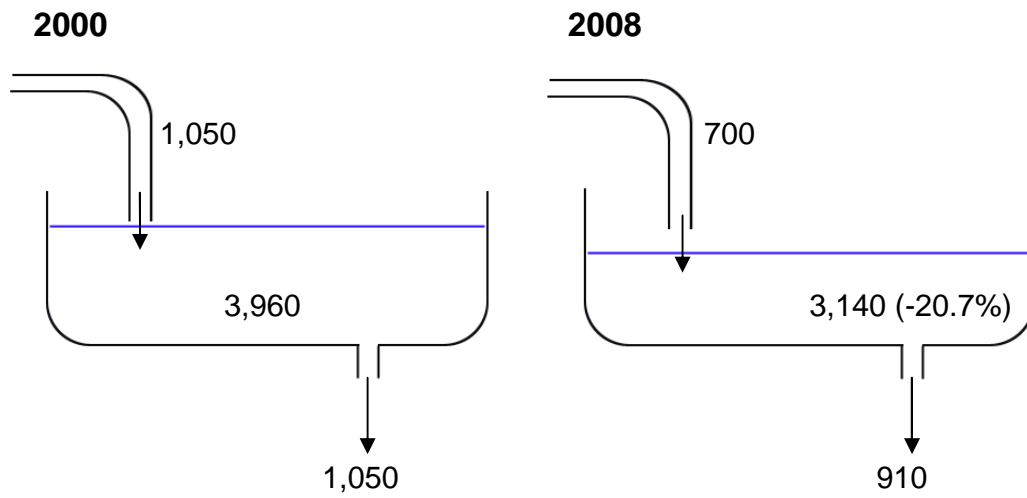


Figure 7 Stock IB claimants, on and off flows in Inverclyde

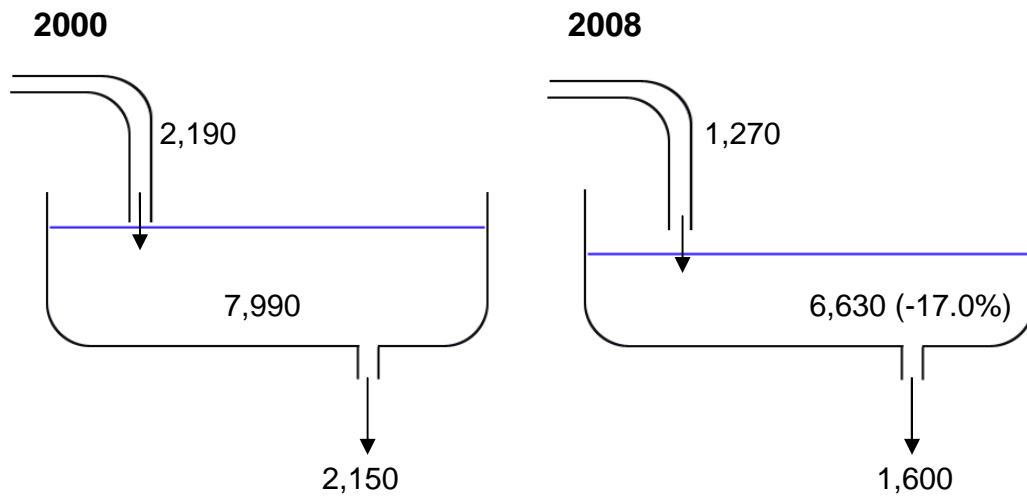


Figure 8 Stock IB claimants, on and off flows in Renfrewshire

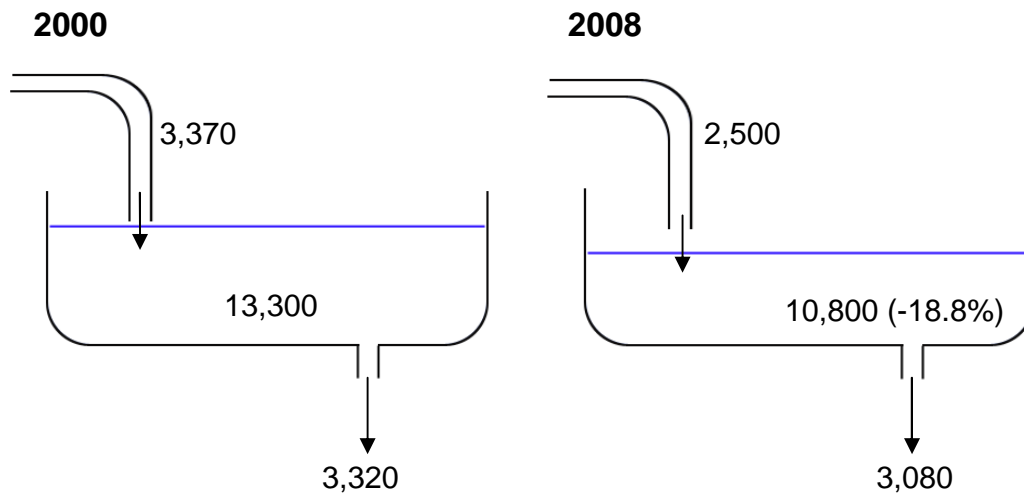


Figure 9 Stock IB claimants, on and off flows in West Dunbartonshire

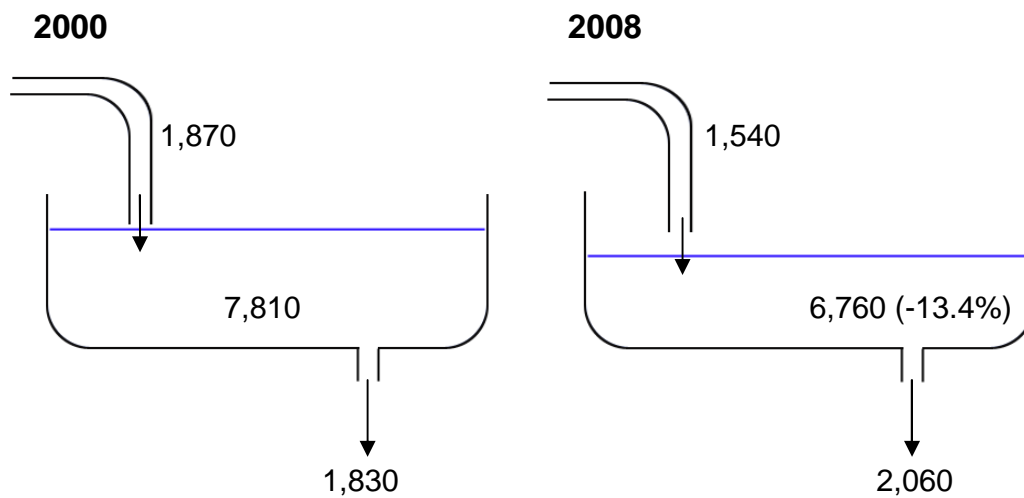


Figure 10 Stock IB claimants, on and off flows in East Glasgow CHCP

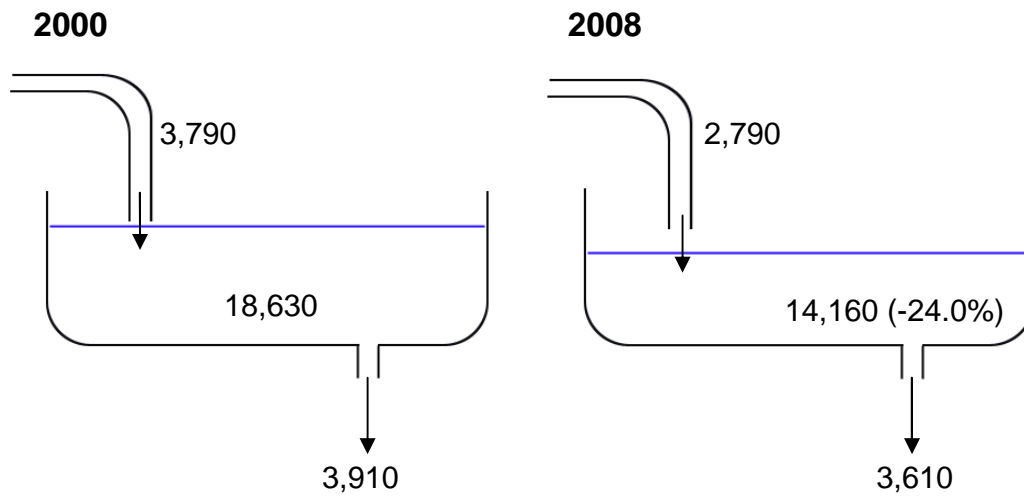


Figure 11 Stock IB claimants, on and off flows in North Glasgow CHCP

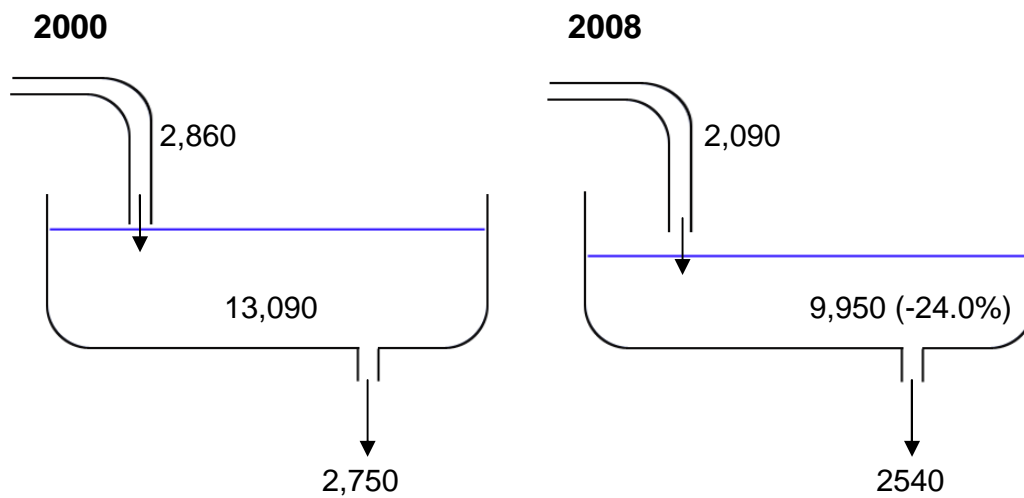


Figure 12 Stock IB claimants, on and off flows in South East Glasgow CHCP

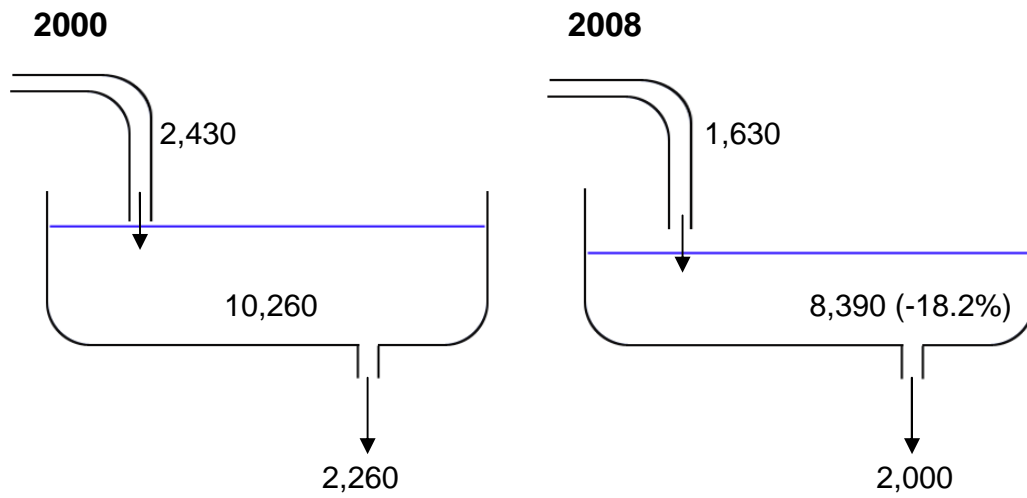


Figure 13 Stock IB claimants, on and off flows in South West Glasgow CHCP

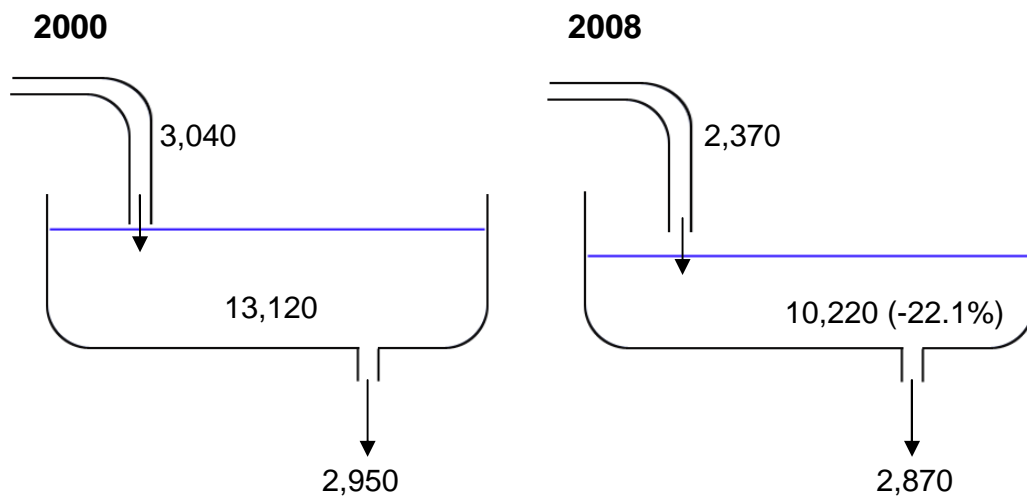


Figure 14 Stock IB claimants, on and off flows in West Glasgow CHCP

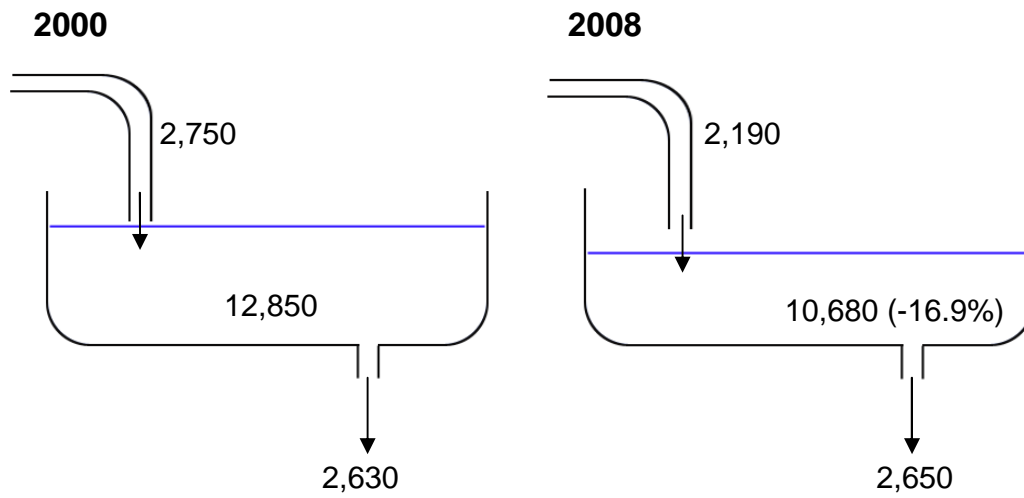


Figure 15 Stock IB claimants, on and off flows in East Lothian

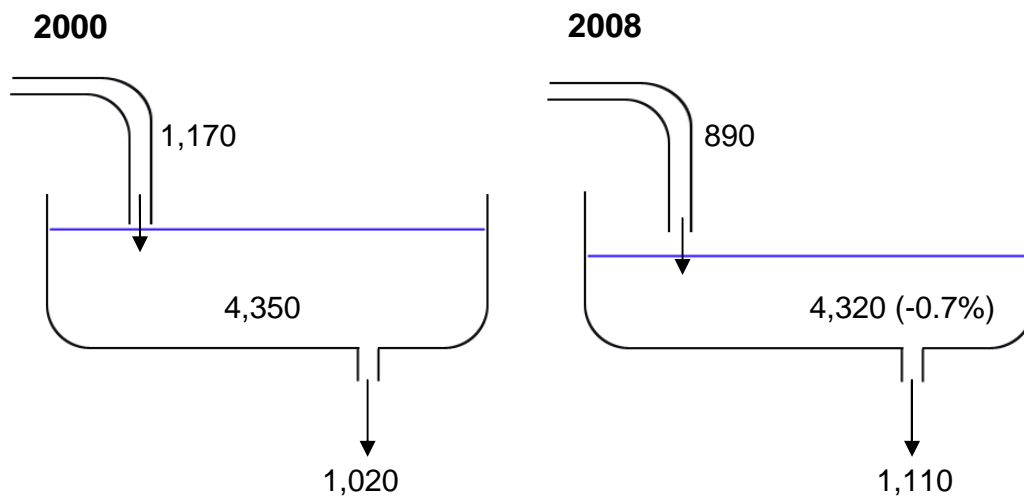


Figure 16 Stock IB claimants, on and off flows in Edinburgh, City of

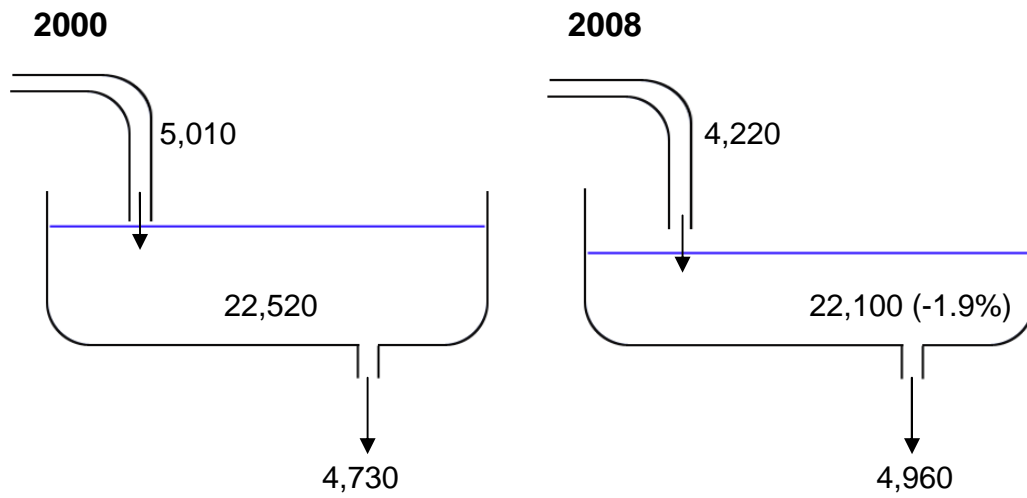


Figure 17 Stock IB claimants, on and off flows in Midlothian

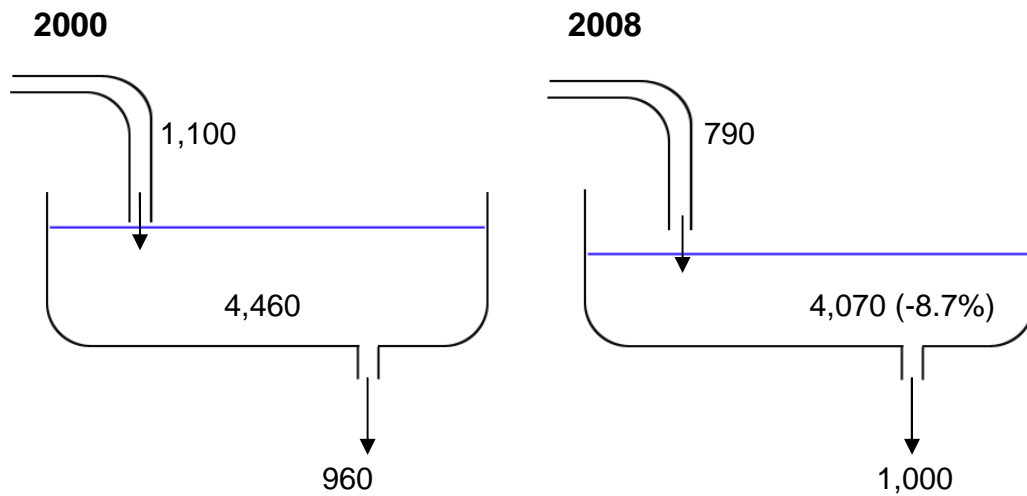
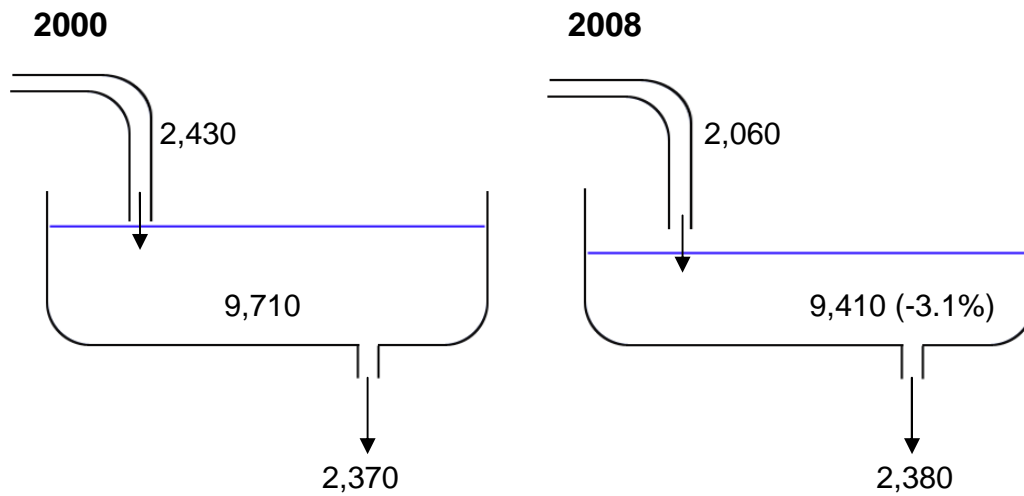


Figure 18 Stock IB claimants, on and off flows in West Lothian



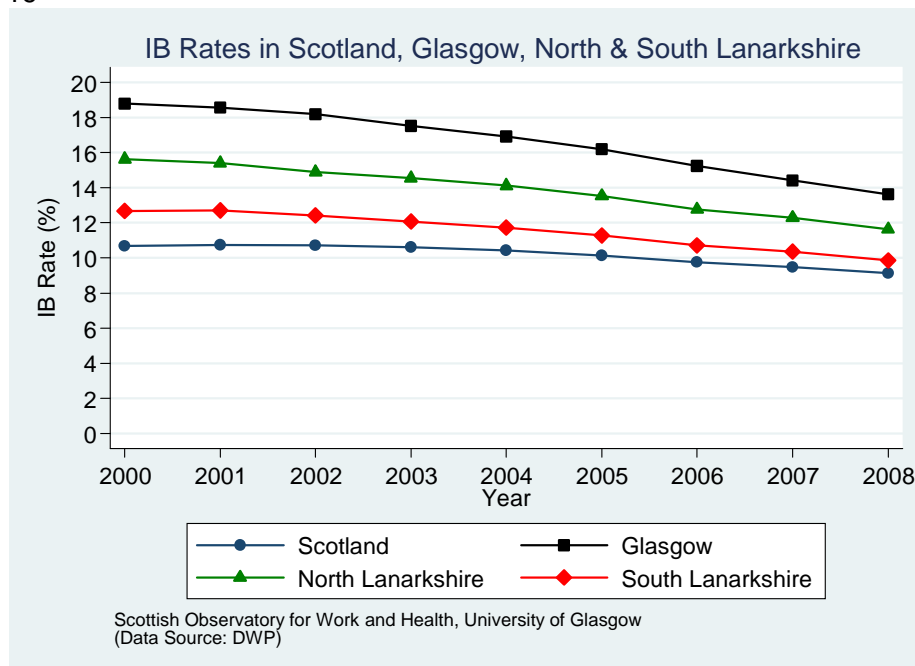
The decrease in the stock population across the geographies is mainly due to *decreases* in the on flow rather than *increases* in the off flow. However in order to really understand the on and off flow data the numbers need to be expressed as on and off flow *rates* – see sections 3 & 4.

2. IB Rates

The IB rate is expressed as the number of IB claimants as a percent of the working age population (males 16-64, women 16-59).

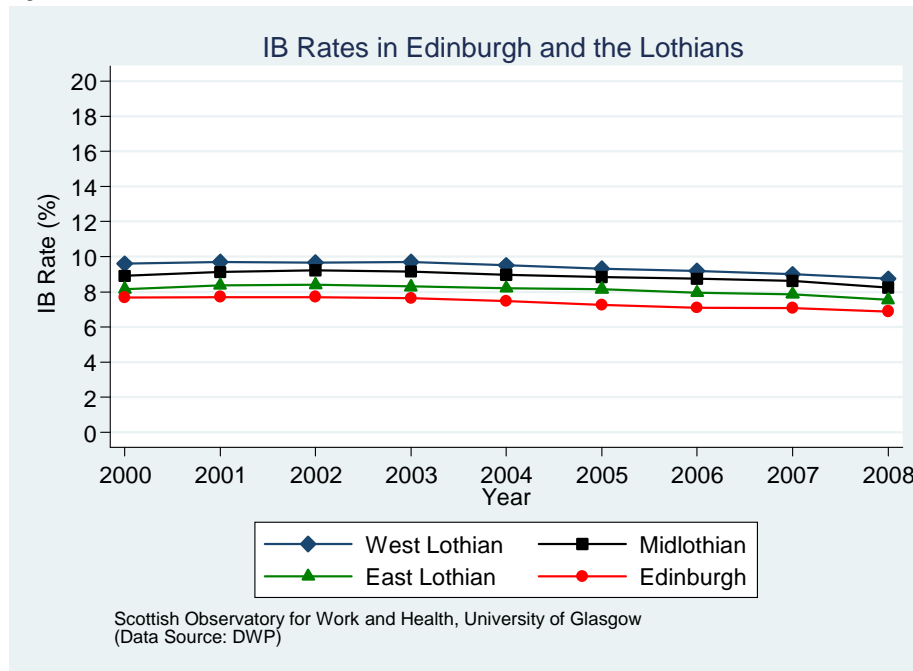
Figures 19 – 22 show the IB rate from 2000 to 2008 for all geographies.

Figure 19



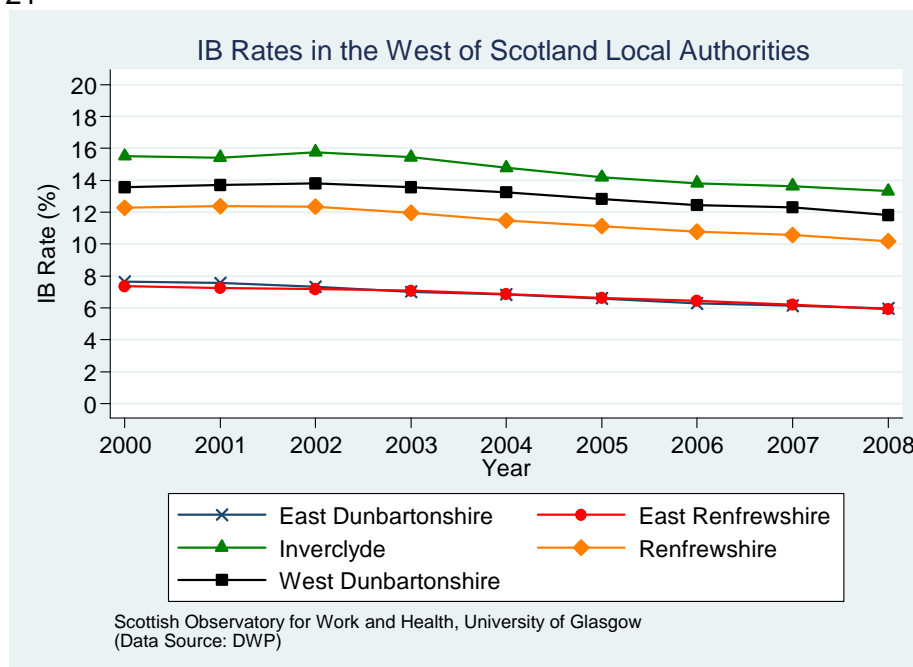
The percent of the working age population claiming IB has decreased from 2000 to 2008 across the all the geographies (e.g. a drop of 1.6 percentage points for Scotland, Glasgow a drop of 5.2 percentage points, North Lanarkshire a drop of 4.0 percentage points and South Lanarkshire a drop of 2.8 percentage points). However Glasgow City still has the highest proportion of the working age population claiming IB (13.6% in 2008).

Figure 20



All the authorities in the east (East Lothian, Edinburgh City, Midlothian and West Lothian) have lower IB rates than Scotland as a whole. Even in 2000 the IB rate was under 10% for all four local authorities. In Edinburgh City the rate had fallen to 6.9% in 2008.

Figure 21



Inverclyde had the highest rate in 2008 at 13.3%, followed by West Dunbartonshire at 11.8% and Renfrewshire at 10.2%. East Dunbartonshire and East Renfrewshire had the lowest rates at 5.9% respectively.

Figure 22

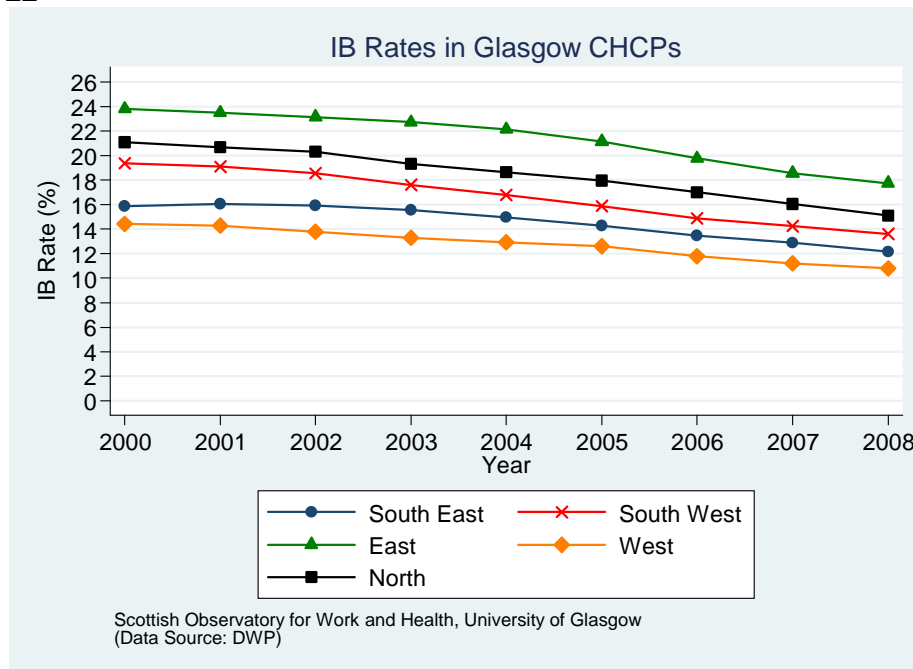


Figure 22 highlights the variation within Glasgow City by plotting the IB rates from 2000 to 2008 for Glasgow CHCPs. The y-axis used to produce Figure 22 is not comparable to the axis used in Figures 19-21. This is due to the higher IB rates observed for Glasgow CHCPs and also the change in the unit of observation under analysis (e.g. from local authority to CHCP).

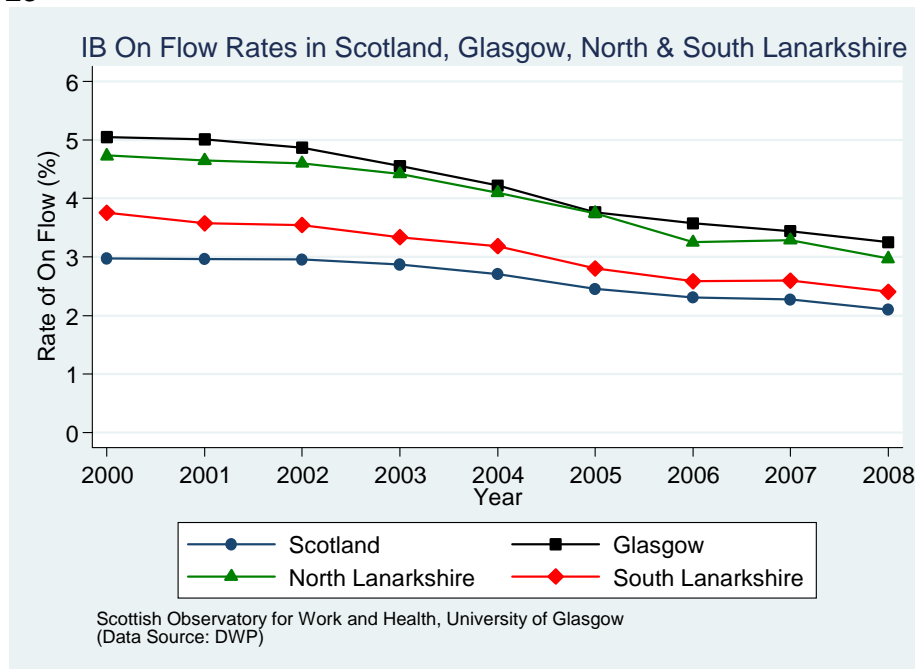
East Glasgow CHCP had the highest IB rate in 2000 at 23.8%, followed by North Glasgow at 21.1%, South West Glasgow at 19.4% and South East Glasgow at 15.9%. West Glasgow CHCP had the lowest rate in 2000 at 14.4%. All rates have fallen over the eight year period.

3. On flow rate

The rate of on flow is expressed as a percent of the working age population (WAP) not on IB. This is the 'population at risk' of moving onto IB.

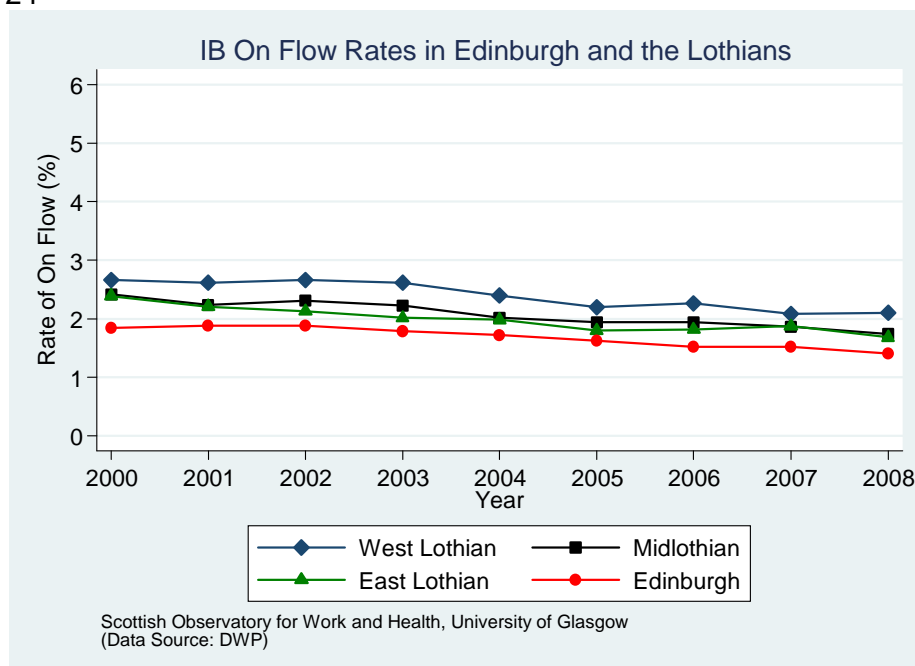
Figures 23 – 26 show the on flow rate in all geographies.

Figure 23



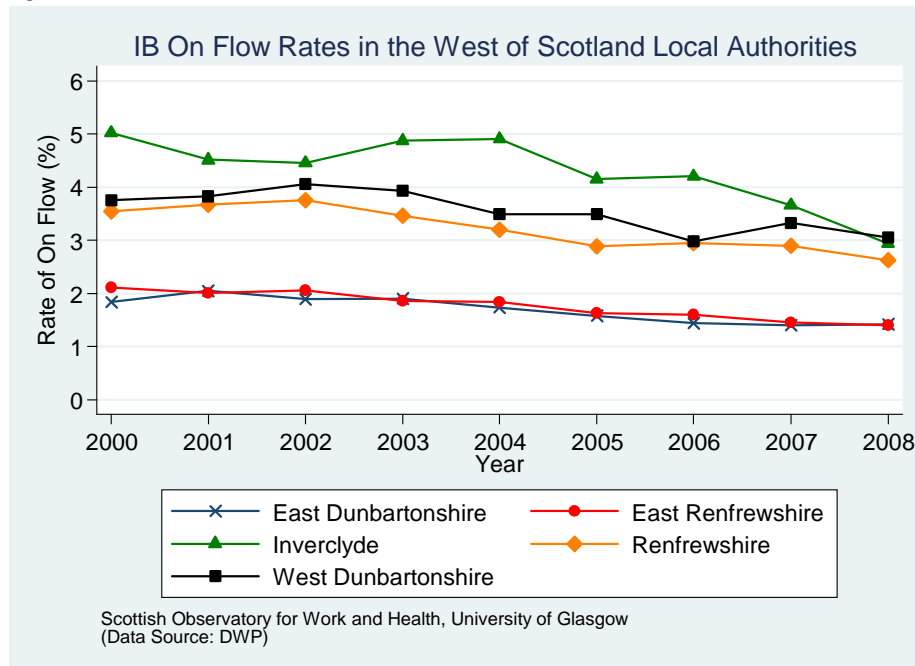
The rate of on flow has decreased across the four geographies. There has been a drop of 0.8 percentage points for Scotland from 2000 to 2008, a drop of 1.8 percentage points for Glasgow, a drop of 1.7 percentage points for North Lanarkshire and a drop of 1.4 percentage points for South Lanarkshire. Glasgow still has the highest on flow rate.

Figure 24



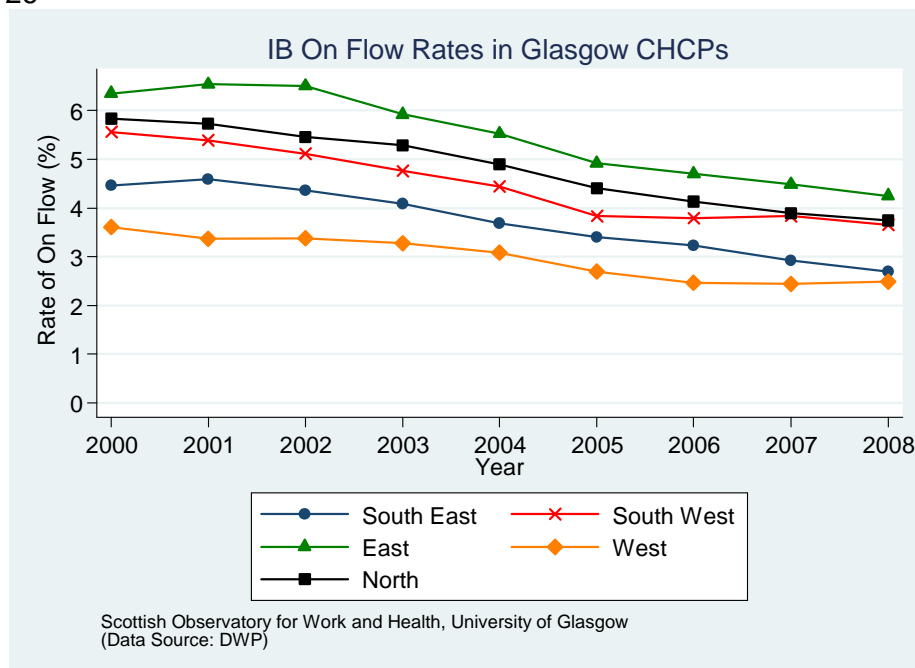
There have been small changes in the on flow rates across all the local authorities in the East.

Figure 25



On flow rates were highest in Inverclyde in 2000. Although there have been some increases in on flow rates, overall there have been decreases in the rate of on flow for all geographies.

Figure 26



East Glasgow had the highest on flow rate in 2000 and West Glasgow the lowest. There has been a drop of 2.1 percentage points for both East and North Glasgow from 2000 to 2008, a drop of 2.0 percentage points for South West Glasgow, a drop

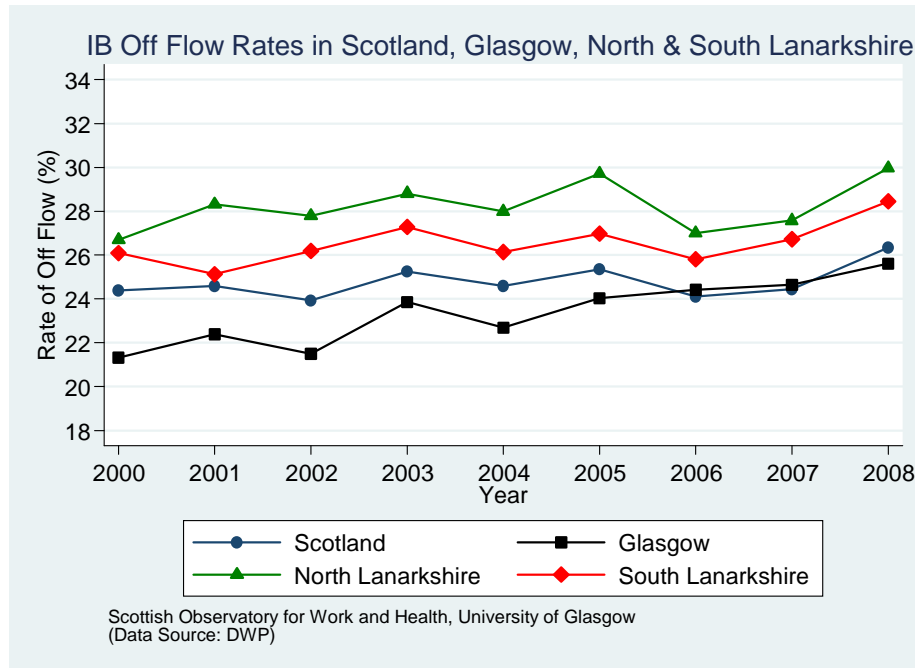
of 1.8 percentage points for South East Glasgow and a drop of 1.1 percentage points for West Glasgow. East Glasgow still has the highest on flow rate at 4.3%.

4. Off flow rate

The rate of off flow is expressed as a percent of the total stock population. This is the 'population at risk' of moving off IB.

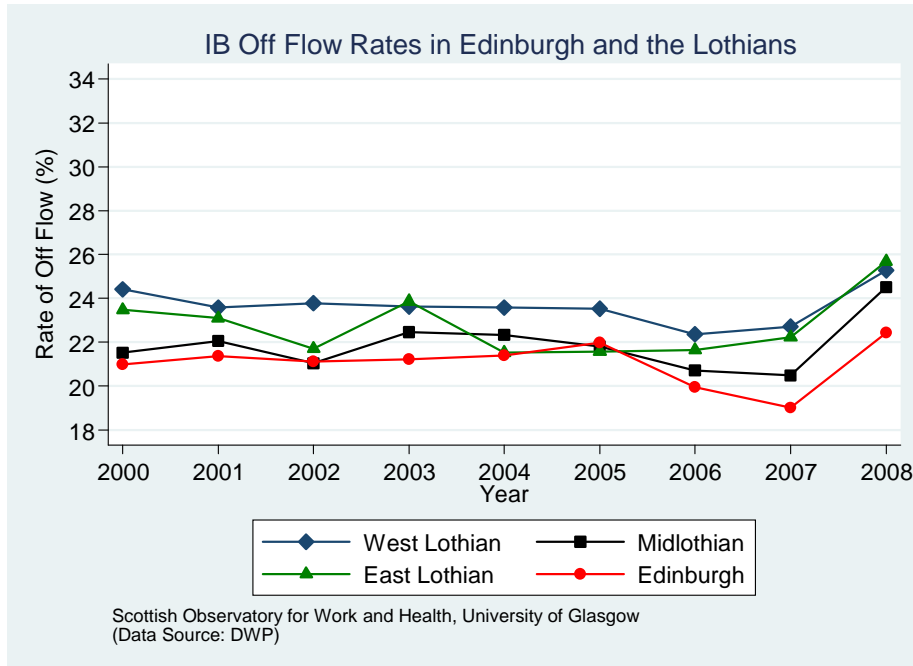
Figures 27 - 30 show the off flow rate in all geographies.

Figure 27



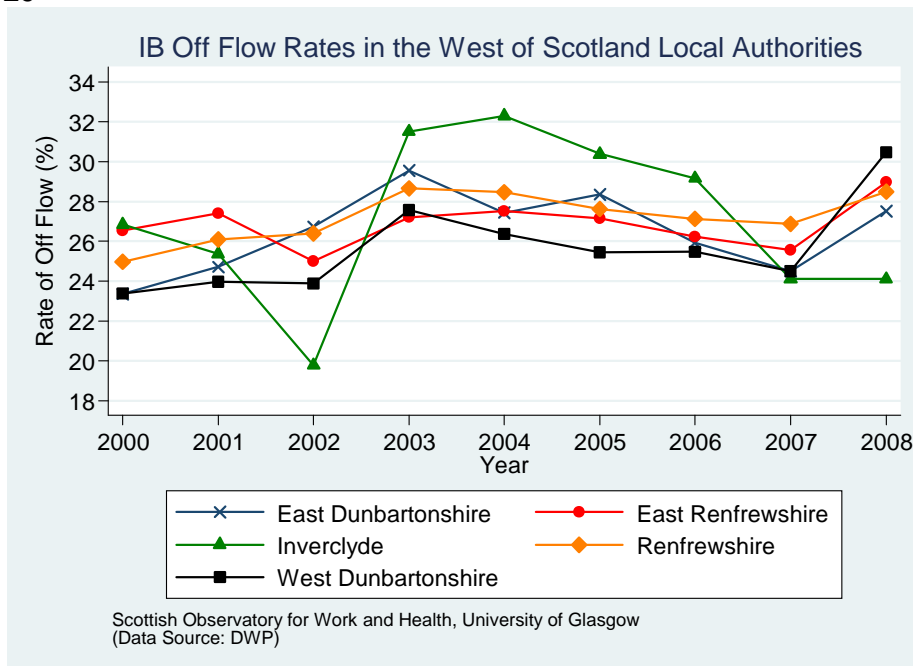
The off flow rates are much more variable across the four geographies. Lanarkshire has higher off flow rates than Glasgow and Scotland. However Glasgow's off flow rate has increased from 21.3% in 2000 to 25.6% in 2008. Pathways to Work was introduced to Glasgow on the 31st October 2005 and Lanarkshire and East Dunbartonshire Job centre Plus area on the 25th April 2006. Since these dates there has been an upward rise in the off flow rate.

Figure 28



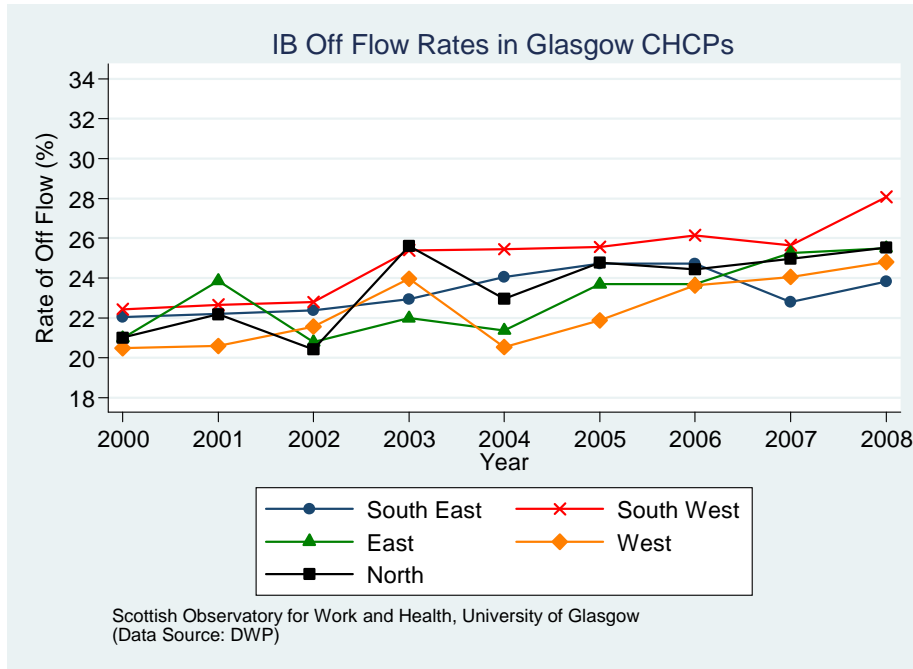
Off flow rates remained largely unchanged but there has been a more recent increase.

Figure 29



There is a dramatic increase in the off flow rate in Inverclyde in 2003. This is likely to be due to the introduction of the Pathways to Work pilot. However this was introduced in the JobCentre Plus district of Renfrewshire, Inverclyde, Argyll and Bute in October 2003. We have looked at quarterly off flow rates in more detail and the increase started to occur before this date.

Figure 30



There has been an upward increase in all the Glasgow CHCP off flow rates. South West Glasgow remains the highest off flow rate at 28.1% for 2008.

References

1. Brown, J, Hanlon, P, Webster, D, Turok, I, Arnott, J, and Macdonald, E. B. Turning the tap off! Incapacity benefit in Glasgow and Scotland - Trends over the past five years. 2007. The Glasgow Centre for Population Health.
2. Brown J, Hanlon P, Turok I, Webster D, Arnott J, Macdonald EB. Establishing the potential for using routine data on Incapacity Benefit to assess the local impact of policy initiatives. *Journal of Public Health* 2008;**30**:54-9.

The Scottish Observatory for Work and Health is funded by the Glasgow Centre for Population Health, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, NHS Lanarkshire, Scottish Centre for Healthy Working Lives and the Scottish Government Health Directorates.

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